

Survey # WA-III-149

Approximate date 1882 (date tablet)

Street Address 4336 Main Street

Town, State Rohrsersville, Maryland 21779

private X, public _____

This well preserved brick house is located on the west side of Main Street in Rohrsersville. A date tablet reveals that it was built in 1882 and the owner has indicated that the Colonial Revival front porch was added in 1912. The house is a two story, three bay building with a two story shed roofed extension to the rear. The main entrance is in the central bay of the front elevation. A distinctive feature is the Victorian Gothic projecting window bay in the north window of the front elevation. Its windows have pointed gothic arches, or lancet windows with a double arched pane pattern. The brick walls are painted red and are distinguished by segmental arches over the openings. Windows have two over two light sash and are trimmed with pairs of louvered shutters. The entrance includes a transom over the door. A frame, board and batten summer kitchen or workshop is located to the rear of the property. This place is significant because of its high level of integrity from the period of construction and the distinctive front projecting window bay. Both buildings are considered to be contributing.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

- I. Geographic Organization: Western Maryland
- II. Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930
- III. Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning
- IV. Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling, Summer Kitchen

Photo Reference: Photo # 26

Form Prepared By: Paula S. Reed, PhD, Architectural Historian
Woodward-Clyde
200 Orchard Ridge Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Date: 6/97

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WA-III-149

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Miller House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 4336 Main Street

☐ not for publication

city, town Rohrersville

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Washington

3. Classification

Category

☒ district)
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process
☐ being considered
☒ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military

☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Charles R. Holder

street & number P.O. Box 6

telephone no.:

city, town Rohrersville

state and zip code Maryland 21779

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

Liber 493

street & number 95 West Washington Street

Folio 207

city, town Hagerstown

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. WA-III-149

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Built in 1882, the Miller House, is a two-story, three-bay, brick dwelling featuring an elaborate Victorian bay window. A Colonial Revival front porch was added in 1912. Located on the west side of Main Street in the Village of Rohrersville, the property also contains an unaltered front gable board-and-batten outbuilding southwest of the house. Although altered by a two-story rear addition, the dwelling retains its original ornamental massing and form. Both buildings are considered to be contributing.

Located within a concentration of mid- to late 19th century dwellings, the Miller House sits along the sidewalk on a tree-shaded lot a few feet above the plane of the roadway. A dirt driveway is on the south side of the property. The dwelling is covered by a side gable roof sheathed with standing seam metal. The walls are laid in a common bond brick pattern and are painted red. Originally massed as an L-shape, the building's footprint has been squared-off by a frame addition on the southwest corner. New concrete block paired exterior brick chimneys interrupt the ridge line in the gable ends. The overhanging eave is finished with a plain frieze.

The three-bay facade features 2/2 double-hung sash windows, a central entry, a bay window, and a full-width front porch. Added in 1912, the porch rests on cement blocks and cement steps leading to the south end of the porch. Round porch columns extend from the wooden porch floor to an entablature containing dentils in the architrave. The balustrade has turned spindle posts. The central doorway has a curved transom and is flanked by a 2/2 window to its south and a Victorian Gothic projecting bay window to its west.

The bay window contains lancet windows with a double arched pane pattern. The segmentally arched windows of the facade feature flat wood sills and louvered shutters. The second floor contains three evenly-spaced windows.

The identical north and south sides of the main block contain two windows on the first and second floors flanking the chimney. These windows are identical to those found in the facade. Two small square windows flank the chimneys in the gable ends. A stone foundation is visible on the north side and contains two small flat arched windows. The ell extension on the south side has two evenly-spaced windows on each floor.

The rear (west) elevation has a centrally located new 1/1 (horizontal) window on the 1st floor of the original section. The original facade portico has been moved to the rear of the house within the ell, filled in with vinyl siding, and contains paired windows. The portico features elaborate Victorian brackets similar to the existing front porch, which were indicative of the time period in which the house was built. The upper story was closed in with vinyl after 1969 by the current owners.

The south elevation of the addition has a door and paired 1/1 windows on the first floor. A portion of the original second floor contains a bricked-in small square window and a new window to the east. The enclosed second story contains an aluminum window.

The front gable board and batten summer kitchen or workshop rests on a stone foundation and is covered with a metal roof. Small lengthwise rectangular openings are in the gables. Aluminum 1/1 windows are located on the side elevations. Off-center doors are located in both the gable ends.

The interior was not accessible.

Changes to the house include the removal of the original portico entrance to the rear of the house, and the addition of a full-width porch on the facade in 1912. The infilled portico hides the original exterior and is unusual in appearance, however does not detract greatly to the overall character of the dwelling since it is on the rear elevation. The addition of the full-width porch slightly alters the scale of the facade from its original appearance, however a full width front porch is not unusual for this time period. The overall scale,

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massing, and a majority of the original features remain intact and the Miller House retains a good level of integrity.

8. Significance

Survey No. WA-III-149

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| prehistoric | archeology-prehistoric | community planning | landscape architecture | religion | | |
| 1400-1499 | archeology-historic | conservation | law | science | | |
| 1500-1599 | agriculture | economics | literature | sculpture | | |
| 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | education | military | social/ | | |
| 1700-1799 | art | engineering | music | humanitarian | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | commerce | exploration/settlement | philosophy | theater | | |
| 1900- | communications | industry | politics/government | transportation | | |
| | | invention | | other(specify) | | |

Specific dates 1882 Builder/Architect Ezra D. Miller

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

and/or Applicable Exceptions: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Built in 1882, the Miller House is part of the village of Rohrsersville, a rural farm trading center. The house is a two-story, three-bay building with a two-story shed roofed extension and represents a traditional building style popular in Washington County in the late 19th century. The building is significant because of its high level of integrity from its period of construction as well being the only traditional style house that also features a distinctive front projecting window bay in Rohrsersville.

Site History

The Miller House was built in 1882 by Ezra D. Miller in the same year that he acquired the property. A datestone in the south corner of the facade reads, "Built by E. D. Miller 1882". The 1900 census lists Miller as being 76 years old with an occupation related to farming.¹ The home was most likely a retirement home for Miller who had bought the property from a trustee after it became embroiled in an equity case. The land this house is located on was traced back to 1842 under the ownership of a family named Grim and was part of a larger property described in the deed as having 73.5 perches and all houses, building...ways, waters, water courses, etc. The equity case noted one acre of land, a dwelling house and a house used as a store house. These buildings are most likely associated with the Grim property that appears on the 1877 Washington County Atlas and which Ezra Miller sold while keeping the land to build this house².

Miller built the house at a prosperous time in the rural trading village of Rohrsersville which began developing in the early 19th century around a grist mill that formed the northern terminus of the village. Located in a fertile area known as Pleasant Valley between South Mountain and Elk Ridge, Rohrsersville was the largest village in the valley that was part of an area in Washington County known for its grain production. The county's rich grain resources were, in part, the impetus for construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, one of the nation's earliest railroads that extended west from Baltimore. In 1867, the railroad began traveling through four stations in Pleasant Valley, with one in Trego, just west of the village. As the railroad expanded the farm market, it brought new growth and opportunities to the village and the area.

Rohrsersville's status as a farm trading center continued into the early 20th century as the Miller House went out of Ezra Miller's possession in 1911, when it was involved in a second equity case and was sold by the trustees to Jacob and Alverta Long. The next citation was in 1915, when John & Bessie Clopper acquired the property from the Longs. The Cloppers kept the property for close to 25 years and then sold it to John & Nellie Keedy in 1941, who kept it for 28 years and sold it to the current owners in 1969.

¹ Census was difficult to read, occupation appeared as NR (unreadable) Farmer.
² Sold a portion of land on 04/01/1882 to Seymour Gloss, Liber 99, Folio 76.

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DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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Theme

Late 19th century architecture in Rohrersville, Maryland: As a result of the success of the surrounding agricultural area and the construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in Pleasant Valley, Rohrersville experienced a second phase of building in the late 19th century. Styles popular in the village at this time included those from the Victorian period of 1860-1900, as well as the traditional, or vernacular, style of building of the early- to mid-19th century of Washington County. This traditional style was represented by two-story, side gabled, brick or frame buildings that were three or four bays wide. Just about half of Rohrersville's thirty-six dwellings were constructed in this traditional style. Fashionable elements of the Victorian time period were often added to traditional houses of Washington County and reflected the prosperity of its owner. Some of the dwellings in the community had small support structures consisting of frame barns or garages. The Miller House represents a fairly substantial traditional home that was built in Rohrersville with its accompanying summer kitchen or workshop. Of the 36 dwellings existing in Rohrersville today, bay windows exist on three other dwellings that are Gothic Revivals from the Victorian Period, making the Miller House the only traditional house with a bay window in the village.

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DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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Chain of Title

| | |
|------------|---|
| 04/02/1842 | Daniel & Martha Grim to John I. Grim Liber 22Folio 157 |
| 06/24/1864 | John I. Grim & wife to John Shifler Mortgage Liber IN 17 Folio 672 |
| 04/01/1882 | John Shifler, Trustee to Ezra D. Miller Liber 82Folio 531 |
| 01/04/1912 | Lewis D. Syester and Leon R. Yourtee (trustees) to Jacob E. & Alverta R. Long (equity case) Liber 137 Folio 685 |
| 01/14/1915 | Jacob E. & Alverta R. Long to John F. & Bessie M. Clopper Liber 145 Folio 711 |
| 04/19/1941 | John F. & Bessie Clopper to John D. & Nellie A. Keedy Liber 215 Folio 197 |
| 08/01/1969 | John D. Keedy to Charles Richard and Trudie Louise Holder Liber 493 Folio 207 |

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Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling
Summer Kitchen

Known Design Source: Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WA-III-149

Holder, Charles R. Current property owner, personal interview, June 23, 1997.
Lake, Griffing & Stevenson. An Illustrated Atlas of Washington County, Maryland.
Philadelphia, 1877.
Washington County Land Records


10. Geographical Data


Acreage of nominated property .5 acres

Quadrangle name Keedysville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References DO NOT COMPLETE UTM REFERENCES

A 

B 

D | | | | | | | | | |

1. ☐ 2. ☐ 3. ☐ 4. ☐ 5. ☐ 6. ☐ 7. ☐ 8. ☐ 9. ☐ 10. ☐ 11. ☐ 12. ☐ 13. ☐ 14. ☐ 15. ☐ 16. ☐ 17. ☐ 18. ☐ 19. ☐ 20. ☐ 21. ☐ 22. ☐ 23. ☐ 24. ☐ 25. ☐ 26. ☐ 27. ☐ 28. ☐ 29. ☐ 30. ☐ 31. ☐ 32. ☐ 33. ☐ 34. ☐ 35. ☐ 36. ☐ 37. ☐ 38. ☐ 39. ☐ 40. ☐ 41. ☐ 42. ☐ 43. ☐ 44. ☐ 45. ☐ 46. ☐ 47. ☐ 48. ☐ 49. ☐ 50. ☐ 51. ☐ 52. ☐ 53. ☐ 54. ☐ 55. ☐ 56. ☐ 57. ☐ 58. ☐ 59. ☐ 60. ☐ 61. ☐ 62. ☐ 63. ☐ 64. ☐ 65. ☐ 66. ☐ 67. ☐ 68. ☐ 69. ☐ 70. ☐ 71. ☐ 72. ☐ 73. ☐ 74. ☐ 75. ☐ 76. ☐ 77. ☐ 78. ☐ 79. ☐ 80. ☐ 81. ☐ 82. ☐ 83. ☐ 84. ☐ 85. ☐ 86. ☐ 87. ☐ 88. ☐ 89. ☐ 90. ☐ 91. ☐ 92. ☐ 93. ☐ 94. ☐ 95. ☐ 96. ☐ 97. ☐ 98. ☐ 99. ☐ 100. ☐

5

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary is the current legal description of the property under parcel 180.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

| | |
|------------|------------------------|
| name/title | Susan Cianci Salvatore |
|------------|------------------------|

organization Woodward-Clyde

date June 1997

street & number 200 Orchard Ridge Dr.

telephone 301-670-3361

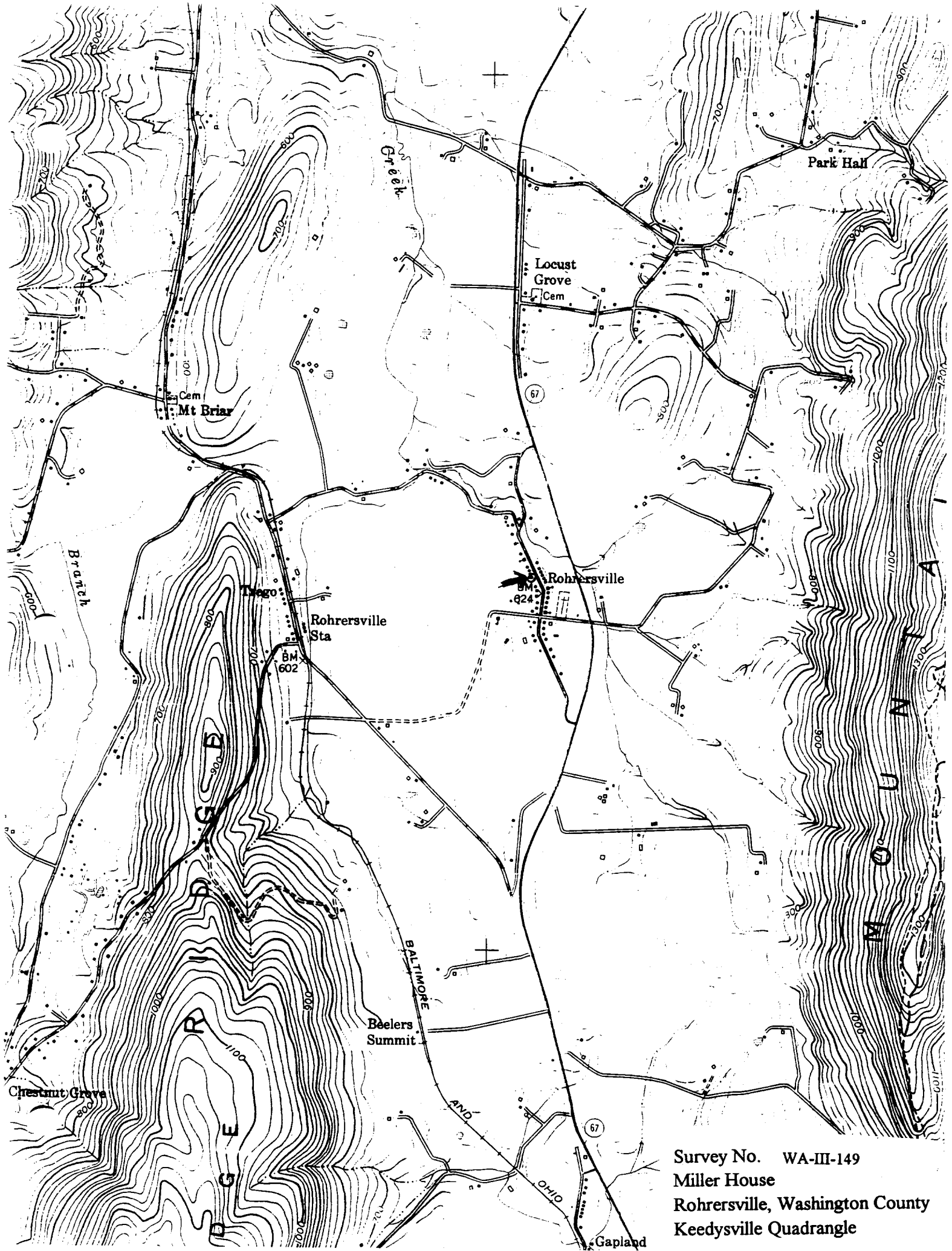
city or town Gaithersburg

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
People's Resource Center
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7000



Survey No. WA-III-149
Miller House
Rohrerstown, Washington County
Keedysville Quadrangle



WA-TII-149

4336 MAIN ST, Rohrer'sville

Washington Co, MD

SC SALVATORE

5/47

NAG- MD SATPO

VIEW NW TO MAIN HOUSE + OUTBUILDING

1 of 4 (ind)

26 of 43 (cap)



WA-TII-149

4336 MAIN ST, ROHRSVILLE

Washington Co MD


SE Salutation

5/95

Neg - MD SHAD

Miller House, view of N elevation

#2 of 4

A black and white photograph of a house. In the foreground, a white balcony with a decorative railing runs across the frame. Behind the balcony, the house features two large, Gothic-style arched windows with multiple panes. To the left of these windows, the address number '4336' is displayed vertically. The house has a light-colored exterior and a dark roof. Tree branches with leaves are visible in the upper corners of the image.

4
3
3
6

WA-III-149

4336 MAIN ST, Rohrersville

Washington Co MD

SC SALVATORE

5/97

Neg - MD S4700

Miller House, view of bay window

3 of 4



WA-III-149

4336 Main St, Rohrsville

Washington Co, MD

SC Sawatne

5/97

Neg- MD SHPO

Miller House, view NE

#4 of 4